

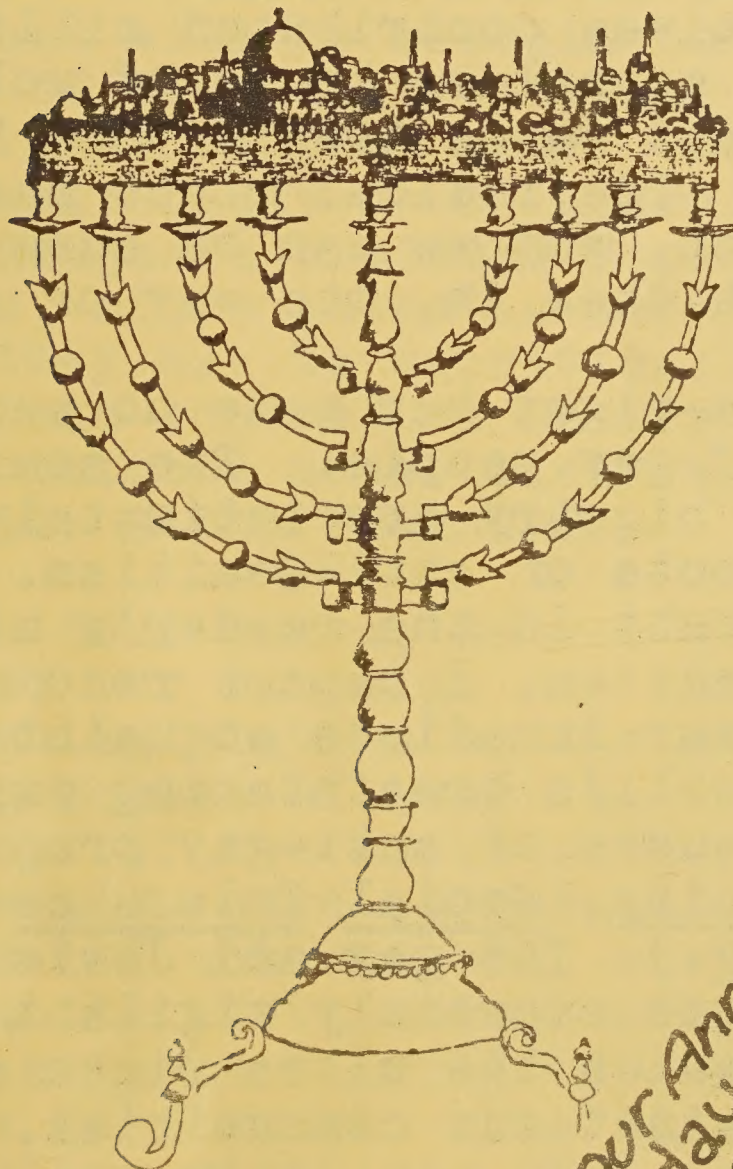
THE JEWISH DAILY

FORWARD

SHA'AR ZAHAV שַׁעַר זָהָב

DECEMBER 1980

HAPPY CHANUKAH



Our Annual Latke Party
Friday, December 5th
Services begin at 7:15 p.m.

from the co-leader

A LOW MOAN

The stunning political victory of Ronald Reagan, together with the prospect of a Republican controlled Senate, signals a drastic change in course for the nation and for our communities. The magnitude of this change cannot be assessed, of course, until President Reagan names his cabinet and other key appointments. Nevertheless, we have deep reasons to be concerned by this new situation, both as Jews and as gay people.

In spite of numerous protests to the contrary, the size of Reagan's margin of victory and the crushing defeat of liberal senators will be interpreted by the ultra-right and the alleged-Christian movements as a resounding endorsement of their positions. Let no one forget that the ultra-conservatives contributed millions of dollars, countless hours of volunteer effort, and votes toward this Republican victory. The radical right has big IOU's to collect, and we can be sure that they will cash them in, one way or another.

The ultra-right has made no secret of its hatred of gay people. The sources of their anti-gay bigotry are intimately related to the roots of anti-Semitism. (If there is any doubt in the reader's mind about the connection, I cannot recommend strongly enough your immediate acquaintance with John Boswell's breathtaking exposition of the causes of anti-gay prejudice: Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality.) The gay and Jewish communities must become supremely vigilant **for the** attacks which the ultra right will assuredly mount against our communities.

As Jews, we can take some small comfort in

the prospect that a Reagan administration may take a somewhat more pro-Israel tilt. Reagan has publicly expressed his distaste for the PLO and may be wary of negotiating with them or relying on their word in view of the current Middle East crisis. The Iran-Iraq war certainly lends strength to Israel's argument that our pro-Arab tilt of the last few years is no guarantee for the protection of our oil supplies, and that a resolution of Arab-Israeli conflict that would be detrimental to Israel would not have the slightest effect on the myriad other intra-regional rivalries and blood feuds.

Domestically, however, we cannot count on this administration vigorously defending the Constitutional guarantees of separation of church and state, or, for that matter, many other Constitutional provisions. The ultra-right sees the Constitution as an impediment to implementation of its policy objectives and will be certain to vigorously attack many of the Constitutional protections on which we have come to rely. We must be particularly ready to be heard on the subject of Reagan's proposed Supreme Court appointments, since there is every reason to believe they may be uncritically confirmed by a Republican-controlled Senate whose Judiciary Committee most likely will be headed by Sen. Strom Thurmond.

For the next four years, we are going to have to focus our campaign for inclusive civil rights legislation on the city halls and the statehouses of America. We have been blown out of the water in our national capital. We also have to redouble our efforts as gays to build unshakeable, strong and ACTIVE community institutions which can weather the attacks we will be facing. We have to make it clear to this Administration and to the ultra-rightists that the gay

community is not going to roll over and play dead in the face of this crisis. One of the ways we can do this is by building and strengthening this Congregation. IF YOU HAVE NOT YET BECOME A MEMBER, OR HAVE YET TO SEND US YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL, DO IT NOW!!! The gay community is only as strong as its institutions are strong. As never before, we need each other. Together, we can strengthen each other.

We must also redouble our efforts to build bridges to the straight Jewish community, and do everything we can to impress upon our straight co-religionists that attacks on the gay community are attacks on the entire Jewish community. During the Nazi era, they came for the gays first. Then they came for the Jews. Our fates are inevitably intertwined. I don't mean to be an alarmist. As distasteful as I find the Reagan camp, I don't believe they are Nazis. But many of the new administration's camp followers are frightening and must be kept under constant surveillance. We cannot afford to be careless. Both the Jewish and gay communities are going to have to find new internal unity and strength if we are to guarantee that "it can't happen here."

Our work is cut out for us. At Sha'ar Zahav we can find the inner strength and companionship we will need to face this turn of events. Join us and together let us overcome.



Shalom,

Rob Montague
Co-leader

from where i stand

From the desk of
ALLEN BENNETT

Hanukkah comes early this year, and, from where I stand, the sooner we get it behind us, the better I like it. No, I am not a Jewish Ebenezer Scrooge, but I have misgivings about our continuing to celebrate Jewish military victories as religious events. While I believe that God works in all times and places in history, I also believe that it is we who get ourselves into the binds that we so often ask God to get us out of. Furthermore, the secularizing of the season does nothing to mitigate my distaste for the gross violation of privacy by manger scenes, the inevitable caroling and other impingements on my senses all of which are present at this season. If nothing else, the field day which commerce has while we catapult further into debt (on credit cards made of middle eastern oil) makes me grind my teeth down even farther.

This may be the one season of the year when I yearn for a return to the strictest sense of traditionalism both within Judaism and outside it. We Jews have certainly bound ourselves to the celebratory spirit of the holidays. But how many of us can either recall or currently celebrate a Hanukkah where we made our own latkes, gebratene gans (roast goose), or the varieties of kugel which are often connected with the holiday? Have you ever made your own dreidl? Do you know what the letters mean? Can you play the dreidl game? Can you teach others to play? Have you ever thought of inviting your friends to a Hanukkah party rather than traipsing off to another of the hundreds of Christmas parties which are ubiquitous at this season? Can you explain to your non-Jewish friends the history and significance of Hanukkah?

If, indeed, this is another holiday when we celebrate religious freedom, what setting do we place that freedom in, now that the Supreme Court has ruled that "secularized" observances of the holidays may be permitted in the schools? Can the Moral Majority and new Supreme Court rulings to once again make prayer mandatory in the schools be far behind?

Let's hope that this is an unfounded fear. Better than that, let's be responsible for keeping it an unfounded fear. Let's continue to be vigilant for our hard-won freedoms, both religious and secular. Then we'll really have something to celebrate!

Shalom,

Allen

SENIOR OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Senior Outreach Program of the Congregation visits Jewish residents in convalescent hospitals under the direction of the Jewish Family and Children's Services. We are currently visiting the Hampshire Convalescent Hospital and the Pine Towers Convalescent Hospital in San Francisco.

Visits are coordinated with the Jewish holidays but we also try to space visits between the holidays as well. These visits bring cheer and companionship to our Jewish seniors, many of whom are shut-ins and receive few visitors. We often bring small gifts, food items, books, magazines, especially items of Jewish interest.

Volunteers for this program are always needed. It requires only one or two hours at a time, and the visits can be as often as the time you can spare. Even if you can only make a few visits a year, your help would be appreciated.

To participate in this mitzah, all you need is to let us know when you might have some time. Phone, write, or tell us at the synagogue and we can then arrange the visit.

Sam Thal
Coordinator

Please
Fill out the
enclosed Bikur form
Cholim Society of this
in the center of this
Forward and return
to us. It's a true
MITZVAH!
Thanks,
Sam

the family circle

Recently I overheard a conversation about the importance of protecting our environment, our "natural heritage", from despoilment by "freebooters" interested only in the short-term profits. "They don't care what the future, human consequences are as long as they get what they want... and get it NOW!" Our responsibility is to see to it that they don't, "foul our water, foul our land, foul our air. We must not allow anyone to spoil the systems it has taken our planet billions of years to develop inot this exquistie tapestry of life."

It was an eloquent statement, emphatically and poetically made. The speaker had a clear sense that she was in the right. And, surprisingly, her statements were made without anger, though they carried total committment in their tone. She was not just talking, she is a doer; she has her convictions and she works to preserve and develop our "natural heritage". And I know that she is an effective worker; I could hear it in her voice and see it in her carriage.

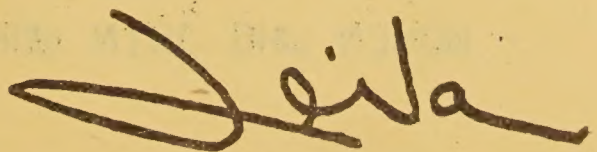
I have thought about her frequently. I believe her greatest asset is her lack of anger. Anger makes us less than our rational best; it makes us vulnerable. We need convictions AND the courage of our convictions....that enables us to act effectively, and to sustain our activity.

We at Sha'ar Zahav believe in our right to our "natural heritage", our Jewish and Gay heritage. The forces of repressionism would deny us both our heritages. Repressionists are moral "freebooters" demanding that the world conform to their scenario. They don't claim, justly, that they have a right to exist; they claim the right to legislate (destroy) our existence. They do not cherish the rich human tapestry of this lovely planet.

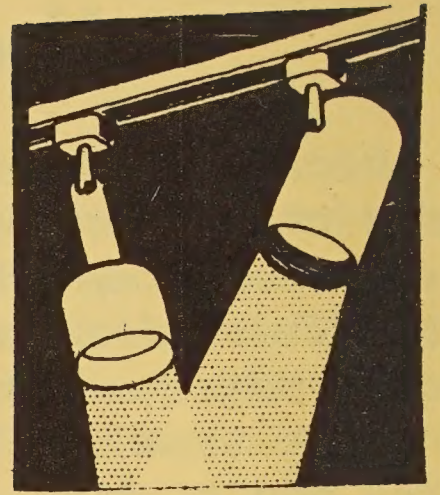
We who love and cherish and protect....we have our work cut out for us. DON'T GET MAD....GET BUSY....

A REMINDER....as of this writing only about one-half of our members have submitted their pledges for this year, 5741....get busy....take care of this NOW! If you have misplaced your pledge letter call George Lucas (775-4386). WE NEED YOU. Yuor membership and participation in Sha'ar Zahav and its good works is one measure of your committment and your willingness to act on that committment. It is an important committment, it is important work, it is Our Heritage!!!

Shalom,



HOT LIGHTS DANCE



Light up your Hanukkah at our HOT LIGHTS DANCE! Saturday night, December 6th, the Jewish Community Center, California and Presidio, in wonderful San Francisco, will come alive with magic and sounds. Our disc jockey will surely captivate you with an evening of music, fun, and friends.

BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

DANCE YOUR HEART OUT!!

LIGHT UP YOUR LIFE NOW!!!

IT'S HANUKKAH JOY

women's chavurah



Tired of Christmas parties? Come to the Women's Chavurah Pot Luck dinner on Saturday, December 20th beginning at 5:00 P.M. The Chavurah will be held at the home of Laurie Radovsky, 3952 18th St., San Francisco. Please call Laurie at 621-0893 for menu consultation. No egg nog please.

WOMEN WHO JOIN WOMEN FIND JOY IN CHAVURAH!

Letter From Israel

!0'777 010e

I have spent the past month at Upan Akiva, a few miles south of Netanya, studying Hebrew with people of all ages from France, Germany, Belgium, Brasil, Argentina, Nigeria and Los Angeles. Today in class a woman newly arrived from the Soviet Union asked "Mah zeh, Texas?" Israel is like that — you can't really make assumptions about what people carry around in their minds, or how they will react.

I have enjoyed most: the Old City in Yerushalayim, the warm clean waters of the Mediterranean, my Salva teacher, the immense, stunning Israeli sky, a Danish tourist I met last Saturday.

I have disliked most: Israeli cooking (the pits), rude waiters, bus drivers who accuse you of not paying the fare, telephones that don't work, the WPA architecture of Tel-Aviv.

Who ever said it was easy to be Jewish?

P.S. Anyone who wants to write:

Love, Krag

KRAG JACOBSON c/o RICHARD AGLIN
BLDG. 105, APT. 44
GILO, JERUSALEM, ISRAEL

THE STORY OF HANUKKAH

By
Hy Rifkin

This is the only Jewish Festival that tells a story of military valor and bravery. Its focus is a dramatic crisis in Jewish history concerning freedom. The story is not a folk fable but is factual.

Alexander the Great conquered Palestine during the 4th century B.C.E. The Greeks brought with them not only their authority but their culture as well.

Hellenization made deep inroads among Jewish officials and wealthy families. The Greek influence was most obviously present with the Greek language, Greek gods, Greek sports, Greek modes of dress, and Greek names. Adopting to Greek ways became fashionable.

Hebrew became neglected. The Sabbath and the Jewish Festivals were not observed. A split was created between the loyal Jews and those who had become Hellenized.

For about 150 years Jewish passions grew more intense and became fired by Antiochus IV, the Syrian king who ruled Palestine in 175 B.C.E. He called himself Antiochus Epiphanes (God made manifest). However, others called him Antiochus Epimanos (the mad man). He sold the office of High Priest first to Jason, leader of the Hellenistic party, and then, after receiving a larger bribe a few years later, he sold the position to Menelaus. This cynical disregard for the religious sentiments of the Jews brought matters to a head. A rumor spread that Antiochus was defeated in battle by Rome and war broke out.

Frustrated in his attempt to get Egypt away from the control of Rome, Antiochus then turned his rage against the Jews and invaded Palestine. He published a royal edict forbidding the practice of Judaism under the penalty of death. Antiochus then had the Temple converted into a sanctuary for the worship of Zeus. Heathen sacrifices were offered on what was the altar of God. The sacred Temple precincts rang with pagan rites, dances, and orgies.

Many like Hannah and her seven sons, and Eliazer, chose death rather than worship Greek idols. They were the first martyrs for freedom of conscience in all recorded history.

It became apparent that more militant resistance was needed, and in the town of Modin the banner of revolt was raised by Mattathias and his five sons. His call, "whoever is for God, follow me," rallied loyal Jews. The battle for

religious freedom had begun.

The outnumbered Jewish forces won the war because of three factors; fighting on their home ground, Antiochus didn't consider the revolt as serious until it was too late, and the Maccabeans fought with reckless desperation for they knew that the alternative to victory was total disappearance of Judaism. Thus the Jews won the first war fought for the precious right of religious freedom.

The Temple was rededicated after cleansing. The defilement of the Temple had last three years. The celebration lasted for eight days, and it was decreed that an eight day celebration begin the 25th of Kislev and be observed annually.

Hanukkah is thus the festival of light and joy. Perhaps the most popular thanksgiving hymn is "Maoz Tzur," known in English as "Rock of Ages." The festivities include latkes, the giving of gifts, Hanukkah gelt to the children, and gambling with the Dreidel. The Dreidel is a four-sided top whose four Hebrew letters stand for NES GADOL HAYAH SHAM, "a great miracle happened Here."

In Israel today there is a torch relay. A torch is lit in Modin, where the revolt began, and is raced to the Great Synagogue in Tel Aviv where the Menorah is lit from the torch.

Because of its significance Hanukkah is a powerful inspiration for all peoples to resist tyranny.

Hanukkah means "dedication". Hanukkah underscores the ultimate triumph in gaining our full and equal rights as gay and lesbian Jews.

Shalom, *NY*



Letter ^{from} the Editor

One year ago at Hanukkah I was cornered in the Oneg room by Leila Raim, our membership committee co-chair.

She said, "All right Bryan, you've been coming to Sha'ar Zahav for several months now, so obviously there's something here that meets your needs, so why not become a member?"

"Gee, Leila, ah, I've been meaning to, but...well...I will real soon," I stammered.

"No time like the present," Leila shot back. "Do it now; you'll love yourself for it."

I did it! I signed that membership card she was waving under my nose.

That was the beginning of a great friendship with Leila, and a wonderful love affair with the spirit and people of Sha'ar Zahav. Little could I have imagined then that I was soon to be surrounded by articles, clippings, graphics, layout paper, glue, scissors, crazed phone calls, and lots of loving support as your editor.

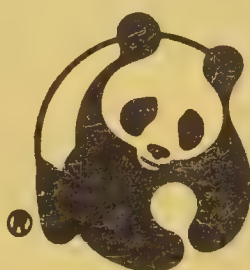
I am always impressed when I realize how little time we all spend basking in various accomplishments, and how much effort we expend getting on with what needs to be done.

At this Festival of Lights, I wish to acknowledge the entire newsletter committee for their ceaseless energy, time, and talent.

There is still so much to be done. Join us in our efforts to grow stronger as a voice within both the Gay/Lesbian and Jewish communities. We are a visable and viable source of strength and nourishment. We need each other now more than ever. We love you, and support you, and we want you to know that.

Join us now, and make this Hanukkah your most rewarding ever.

HAPPY HANUKKAH FROM ALL
OF US!



Shalom,

Bryan Taylor
Editor

PLEASE NOTE:

Over the past six months our synagogue has grown at a rapid rate, and so has our mailing list. To all new members, as well as those who show an interest in our synagogue, we say, THANK YOU! Thank you for sharing yourselves with us.

To all non-members: Due to rising publication and mailing costs we are asking you to please complete and mail the enclosed card if you wish to continue receiving the Jewish Gaily Forward.

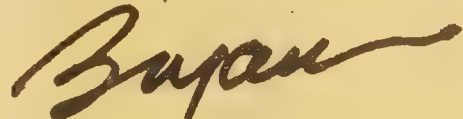
Organizations and readers who reside outside the United States need not respond. These parties will continue to automatically receive the Forward.

We want to reach the widest possible readership with the message of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, and your response will let us know that your interest in Sha'ar Zahav sustains our effort.

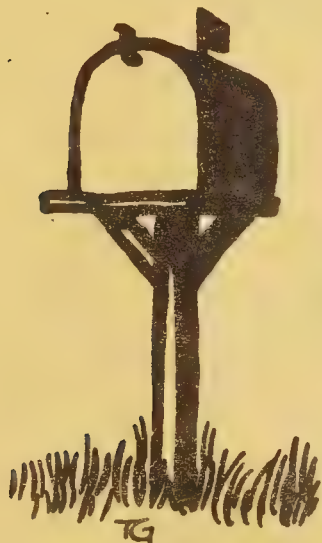
Please mail the enclosed card today to insure that you will receive the Forward each month. Your 10¢ stamp on the card will defray our postage costs (the P.O. charges us 20¢ otherwise), and make you feel good.

Thank you for your prompt cooperation.

Shalom,



Bryan Taylor
Editor



FROM THE BIBLE:

AARON

Aaron, the son of Amran and Jochebed of the tribe of Levi, was three years older than his brother, Moses. Aaron is considered to be the traditional founder and head of our Jewish priesthood, who, in the company of Moses, led the Israelites out of Egypt. The magic wand of greatness never touched the shoulder of Aaron. Older than Moses in years, he was younger in genius and character.

In Egypt he was his brother's mouthpiece, the buffer between the elders and the people, between Pharaoh and Israel as well. "And he shall be your spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to you instead of a mouth, and you shall be to him instead of God." (Exodus 4:16)

He also did the praying. He was the senior member of that distinguished group of high priests of Levi which held sway over Israel for over sixteen hundred years. Aaron was the instrument of most of the Exodus miracles. He loved God.

He was eloquent but inconsistent. Numbers 12 tells us that, together with his sister, Miriam, Aaron spoke against Moses because he had married a foreigner (a Cushite woman), for which Aaron was reproved. In the rebellion of Korah the Levite, however, Aaron stood firmly at the side of Moses (Numbers 16). He was strong so long as he had Moses to lean upon, but when left to himself he was quite apt to fail.

After the march out of Egypt Aaron became a shadow at Moses' side. The mind of Moses dominated him and left him weak.

His life is a study of chaos. Promise and uncertainty fought for him. Uncertainty won. He died in disgrace, stripped of his priestly robe and office: "Aaron shall be gathered unto his people: for he shall not enter into the land which I have given unto the children of Israel, because you rebelled against my word at the water of Meribah." (Numbers 20:24) Aaron died on the top of Mt. Hor at the age of 123.

F.

Remember!

As we celebrate this joyous Hanukkah season let us not forget our brother and sister Jews who still remain in bondage in the Soviet Union.

Let our thoughts turn to those who bravely marched on the Soviet parliament buildings, and those who are enduring a hunger strike for their human rights to be Jews.

Why not contact the Bay Area Council on Soviet Jewry, 106 Baden St., San Francisco, CA 94131, 585-1400, and volunteer some time? It would be a fine mitzvah, and an honor to the freedoms we too often take for granted.



REACH OUT NOW!

Within our synagogue our Outreach Committee is actively involved in regular picketting of the Soviet Consulate in San Francisco, as well as maintaining an ongoing letter writing campaign to Jews in the Soviet Union. Our Outreach Committee has a close working relationship with the Bay Area Council on Soviet Jewry.

Your hands are needed in this important effort to give support and encouragement to our Soviet Jewish brothers and sisters. Please volunteer whatever free time you can donate to save Soviet Jews, and to let the world know that, at least, we have not forgotten.

Contact Cheryl Orvis at 861-8142, and lend your needed talents to our Outreach Committee.

CONSIDER THIS

The Va'ad of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is currently investigating the possibility of obtaining group health insurance for our members who would be interested in participating in such a plan. Those who are currently covered by another insurance plan would not be eligible for this coverage.

We are attempting to learn if such a plan would be feasible for our members who do not have health insurance. We are giving special attention to those members whose income is somewhat limited, or who are not now covered by a health plan either at work or on an individual basis.

At this time we do not have any figures on the cost of such a plan to individual members. However, your indication of interest will help us gauge what the enrollment could be, and subsequently, what our cost could be.

If you are interested in learning more about this health plan, and might be willing to participate in it, please call the synagogue office within the next thirty days. Our number is 621-2871.



THE OUTLET OF THE JORDAN INTO THE DEAD SEA

Sixth Century

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

The committee to study our by-law revisions is being formed now. If you are interested in participating on this committee of review, please contact either co-leader, Rob Montague (929-0162), or Laurie Radovsky (621-0893).

NOTES FROM THE FOOD MAVEN

For those of you who cannot get enough at our annual Hanukkah latke party, the recipe follows:

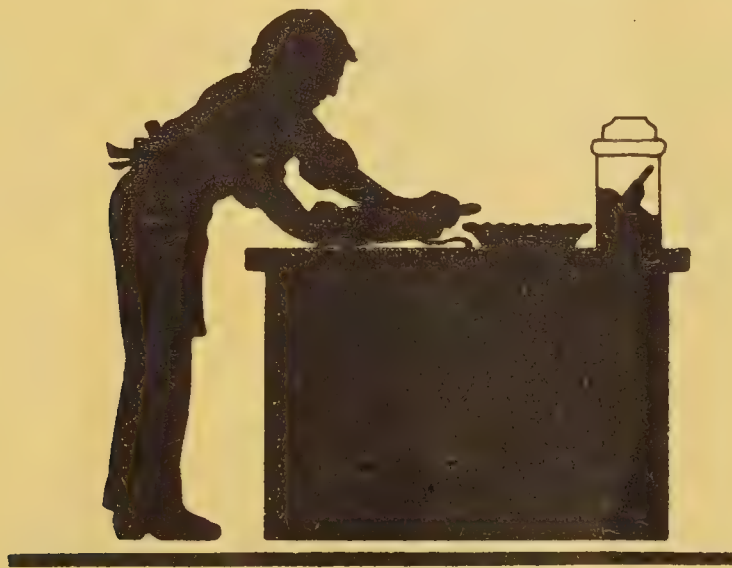
First you get a food processor. (Beg, borrow or connive to acquire one. They are available for approximately \$50 at sales and discount houses and are invaluable accessories. Besides instant latkes, you can whip up barrels of hoummos in nothing flat, not to mention hallah dough, matzo ball dough, etc.)

Next you wash four potatoes. Using the grating blade of your food processor, grate them skin and all. Then grate one-half or one whole onion (depending on your taste). Remove from the container and set aside. Put in the steel chopping blade, put in grated potato/onion mixture, add one egg, two tablespoons of matzo meal (or flour), salt and pepper to taste, and process!!!

Your batter should be reasonable soupy so that your latkes will be thin and fry up crispy. If it's too thin, add more matzo meal. If it's too thick, add another egg.

Fry tablespoonsful of the batter in very hot oil until golden and crisp. (Both sides!) Drain on paper towels and keep warm on a plate in a low oven. Serve with sour cream (heaven!), applesauce, or whatever your heart craves. Yield: 12 or more, depending on size. Calories: Don't ask!

EDITOR'S NOTE: If you can't beg, borrow or connive a food processor, your blender, or even a hand grater (which my mother used) will do. Watch your fingers on that hand grater. Nobody wants fleischig latkes!



bits & pieces

IS IT POSSIBLE?

I am in need of a one bedroom apartment in San Francisco or Berkeley for \$300 per month, or roommate to share a larger place. Any non-smoking female who is interested please call Linda at 566-0718

SHARE

If you have a house or apartment to share in Berkeley please contact Tamar at 236-8973. She is interested in moving as soon as possible, and is open to sharing with either a woman or a man.

OUR THANKS

An anonymous member of the synagogue has graciously donated us a portable stereo phonograph, and a set of Jewish and Hebrew records. These are items we sorely need. We thank this donor and acknowledge his mitzvah.

AND FURTHER...

Anyone who wishes to donate phonograph records to be added to our music library may bring them to Friday night services. Unfortunately, we are not yet ready to receive books for our library due to lack of current storage space. Please hold onto your book donations as we will keep you posted as to when we'll be ready to receive them. Thank you!

DAVID'S BAR MITZVAH

David Ben-Jacob's Bar Mitzvah was a major event for our synagogue. On November 21st, David became the first Bar Mitzvah celebrated by our synagogue. It was indeed a beautiful occasion, and should serve as an inspiration for future bat/bar mitzvot.

DECEMBER VA'AD MEETING

The December Va'ad Meeting will be held at the home of co-leader, Laurie Radovsky, 3952 - 18th St., S.F., from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., December 7th.

judaism today

The 12th Regional Biennial Convention of the Northern California Council, Union of American Hebrew Congregations will be held at the Marriott Inn - Berkeley Marina, January 30 through February 1.

The Convention will feature seminars, workshops, worship, and activities that will be inspirational to synagogue leaders and members.

For more information, please contact the UAHC at 392-7080.

NEW JEWISH AGENDA CONFERENCE

The Organizing Committee for a New Jewish Agenda is sponsoring a National Conference December 24 - 28, at the 4-H Conference Center in Washington, D.C.

The purpose of the conference is to provide participants with greater insight into Jewish issues from religious and secular perspectives.

The New Jewish Agenda is coordinating a progressive and meaningful Jewish program for the 1980's.

Contact the New Jewish Agenda, 150 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1002, New York, N.Y. 10011, for conference details.

MIDDLE-EAST PEACE ACTIVIST TRAINING WORKSHOP

The Shalom Network will be holding a workshop to train those interested in their organization's efforts on behalf of Middle-East peace activism.

The workshop will be held just prior to the New Jewish Agenda Conference. The Shalom Network sessions will cover peace efforts both in Israel and the United States, ways of combatting stereotypes, misinformation about Israel, Palestinians, and the Middle-East conflict.

The Shalom Network workshops are scheduled to begin Monday evening, December 22nd, and run up to noon on Wednesday, December 24th, in Washington, D.C.

For further information, please contact Cherie Brown, 100 Frederick Ave., Medford, MA 02155.

ritual calendar

Friday, December 5

*services
begin at
7:15 P.M. this
Shabbat
only*

Fourth Night of Chanukah

Torah: Miketz (Gen. 41:1-44:17)

Haftorah: Zechariah (2:14-4:7)

Birchat Hachodesh (New Moon)

Services: Ritual Committee

Monday, December 8

Rosh Chodesh Tevet

Friday, December 12

Torah: Vayigash (Gen. 44:18-47:27)

Haftorah: Ezekiel (37:15-28)

Services: Wendy

Friday, December 19

Torah: Vayechi (Gen. 47:28-50:26)

Haftorah: I Kings (2:1-12)

Services: Allen Bennett

Friday, December 26

Torah: Shemoth (Exodus 1:1-6:1)

Haftorah: Isaiah (27:6-28:13,
29:22-23)

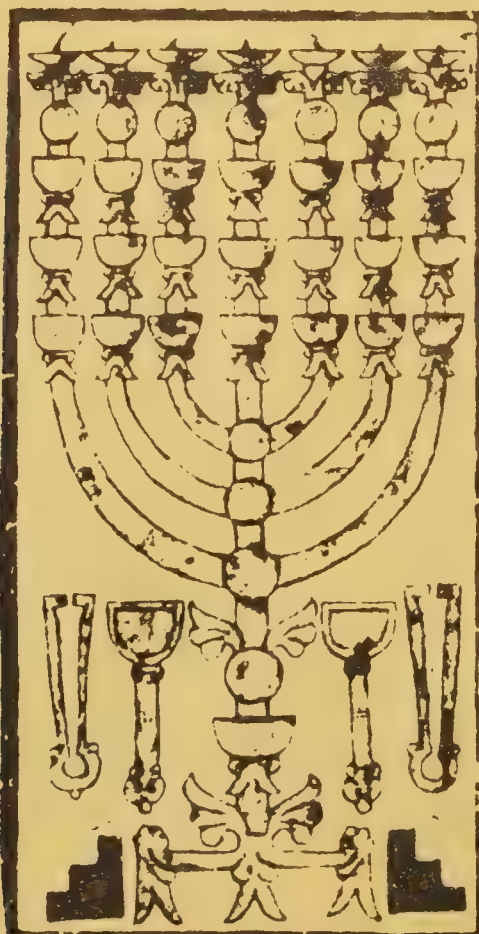
Services: Steve Greenberg

Friday, January 2

Torah: Va'era (Ex. 6:2-9:35)

Haftorah: Ezekiel (28:25-29:21)

Birchat Hachodesh (New Moon)



OPEN THE ARON

In October the Ritual Committee had two meetings. Among numerous topics discussed were the upcoming Chanukah celebration (first weekend in December), regular Friday night services, Pesach, and the Hagadah.

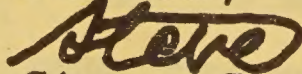
Our Friday night service on December 5th in honor of Chanukah will begin with a shortened version of the regular Friday night Shabbat service. We will add some special features to that service for the Chanukah celebration. After the service we will all gorge ourselves on latkes.

Marc Lipschutz is now coordinating our Friday night services. This means he arranges for people to lead services, and he assigns them the passages they will read.

Ralph Greenberg is the representative from the Ritual Committee to the as-yet-to-be-formed Temple Committee that will deal with Passover preparations. While discussing possibilities for the Seder, we recognized that a lot of the success of the celebration is in planning room arrangements, the execution of the Seder, and coordinating the work of all the contributing areas such as ritual, food, building, and publicity. We are still in the process of discussing the Hagadah. We will need to print more copies of the Hagadah for this coming Passover. Ideally, there are a number of changes we are considering that will enhance the Hagadah and the Seder. Of course, we are limited at this point by funds and the number of people working on the Ritual Committee.

We will continue to look further into this topic. Anyone who would like to offer their assistance, please contact me at 641-8445.

Shalom,



Steve Greenberg,
Ritual Chair

NOVEMBER ONEGS

- NOVEMBER 7: By David Ben-Jacob for Bryan Taylor and Don Hautala.
- NOVEMBER 14: By Joe Zygielbaum and Sam Allen in honor of their new home, and Joe's birthday.
- NOVEMBER 21: By Rabbi Allen Bennett, Steven Fritsch-Rudser, Leonard Brill, and Shelley Spiro in honor of David Ben-Jacob's Bar Mitzvah.
- NOVEMBER 28: Congregation Sha'ar Zahav Pot Luck.

THREE POTATOES, ONE ONION,
AND H-E-L-P!

As our tradition dictates, each person attending the Latke Party, Friday evening following our Shabbat service for the fourth night of Hanukkah, must bring three potatoes, one onion, and any help they can offer. We need cooks, potato washers and cutters, juice and wine pourers, and people to help with the odds and ends that will inevitably have to be handled that evening.

It will be of tremendous help if some people will bring large skillets and kettles.

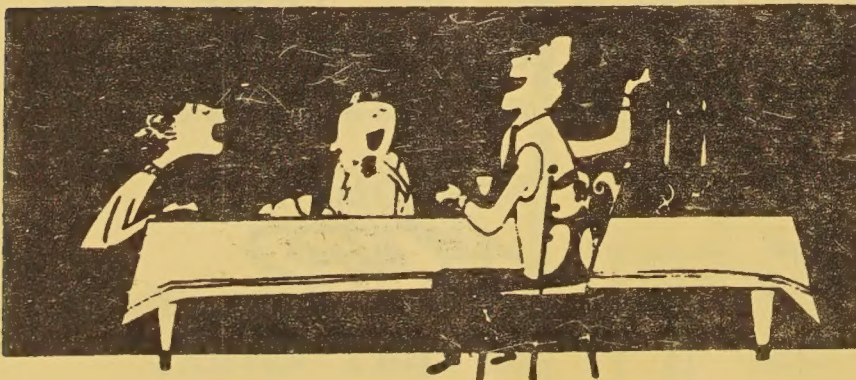
All of you offering to help please contact me at 776-1289 as soon as possible. Let's make this gala Latke Party our most successful ever!

HAPPY HANUKKAH TO EVERYONE!!!

Shalom,

David

David Ben-Jacob,
Oneg Committee Chair



yahrzeits

Benjamin Goldstein,
father of William
Goldstein 12/5

Fred M. Weiss,
grandfather of
Wendy 12/1

Charles Staub,
grandfather of
Wendy 12/7

Maureen Strachen,
sister of Peter
Tannen 12/8

Leo Lutrin,
father of Harry
Lutrin 12/23

A. Martin Lipschutz,
father of Marc A.
Lipschutz 12/25

Victoria Lowell,
mother of A. G.
Beauregard
Lowell III 12/25

Bayla Schneidman,
sister of Daniel
Chesir 6 Tevet

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Editor, 641-9047 for
an interview.



birthdays

Penny Dachinger	12/2
Richard Riffer	12/3
Leonard Galatioto	12/4
Alan Schraeger	12/4
George Lucas	12/8
Mark Moskowitz	12/9
Rod Leslie	12/10
Abraham Cohen	12/11
Walter Leiss	12/12
Susan Shavin	12/14
Ron Lezell	12/15
Sam Thal	12/31

donations

Arlene Hoffman
 Muriel Appenzeller
 Joseph Freedman
 Richard Malvin
 Mark Leno
 Alan Schrager
 (In memory of
 Isadore Friedman)
 Peter Barnes
 I. Chriss
 John Golebowski
 Sam Thal
 Scott Chase

All Friday night Shabbat services begin at 8:15 p.m. and are held at the Jewish Community Center, California and Presidio, San Francisco.

congregation sha'ar zahav

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